

डी०डी०ए० में अथवा उसके सम्बद्ध कार्यालयों में उच्च पदों पर कार्य कर रहे हैं; और

(ड) क्या सरकार उक्त तथ्यों की जाँच करेगी और सदन को उसके परिणामों से अवगत कराया जाएगा ?

निर्माण और आवास मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद उस्मान आरिफ) : (क) से (ड) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

#### Self-Financing Flats in Janakpuri, Pocket 'B'

4266. SHRI KESHORAO PARDHI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to refer to reply given to USQ No. 1281 on 28 February, 1983 regarding self-financing flats in Janakpuri Pocket 'B' and state :

(a) whether the progress of construction of these flats since February 1983 has been practically nil, if so, how and on what basis was the undertaking to complete these flats by December, 1983 given;

(b) whether responsibility for abnormal delay in construction and consequent loss to the allottees has been fixed if so, the results; and

(c) special steps now being taken/or proposed to be taken to make up for the loss of time in constructing these flats and by what time they are likely to be handed over to the allottees ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF) :

(a) The DDA has reported that the date of likely completion of December, 1983 was indicated in February, 1984 on the basis of progress made till then and after calculating further time required for completion the remaining work. Later on the progress had been slow because of the restricted supply of cement and acute shortage of coarse sand.

(b) The DDA have issued notices for taking penal action against the contractor. They would pay interest @ 7% per annum for a period beyond 2½ years till the flats are offered for possession.

(c) The DDA has reported that the contractor has started reorganising the work and all out efforts are being made to get the work completed at the earliest and the question of allotment will arise only after completion.

#### Construction of Self-Finance Flats of D.D.A. in Phase IV, Ashok Vihar

4267. SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) by when D.D.A. propose to start construction of flats in Phase IV, Ashok Vihar for allotment to persons who have already deposited two to three instalments under the Self-Financing Scheme; and

(b) the likely period involved for the completion of the construction of above flats ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF) : (a) The DDA propose to start construction of flats in Phase IV, Ashok Vihar in February, 1984. The DDA has collected only first and second instalment from the allottees.

(b) The DDA has reported that the flats are expected to be constructed within one year as per the schedule.

#### Rise in Water Level in Faridkot and Muktsar, Punjab

4269. SHRIMATI GURBRINDER KAUR BRAR : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the two towns of Punjab namely Faridkot and Muktsar are sinking due to abnormal rise in water level;

(b) whether it is a fact that rise in water level is causing great danger to the lives and property of the residents of these towns;

(c) whether Government have made any inquiry into the matter and if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to check the rise in water level and safeguard the lives and property of the residents of these towns ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :** (a) and (b) In and around the towns of Faridkot and Muktsar, a continuous rise in ground water levels has been observed during the recent past. This rise has been on account of excessive application of surface water through surface irrigation systems. Due to this continuous and abnormal rise in the water levels, it has been observed that foundations of buildings, roads and drainage system has been affected.

(c) The Central Ground Water Board and a Committee of Punjab Agriculture University, Punjab State Tubewells Corporation besides the State Drainage, Public Health and Public Works Department have studied the problem during the recent past.

The Central Ground Water Board has estimated that in Muktsar area, after the introduction of canal irrigation, about 6.00 million cubic metres of surface water is being recharged to the ground water body annually. As a result of this, a rising trend in the ground water levels has set in. The average rise of water level has been calculated as 0.7 metre per year. The water levels now rest within 0.17 to over 5 metres below ground level. Within 10 km. radius of Muktsar town, an area of 400 sq. km. has been affected due to this rise in water level.

In Faridkot area also, a rising trend has been observed and the water levels were within 3 metres below ground level in 1978.

(d) On the recommendations of the Central Ground Water Board and various study teams of Punjab Government, the State Government have taken several steps to remedy the situation. These include extension of the existing drains to carry the excess water to the streams, construction of shallow wells and lining of canals. To lower the water table, 285 shallow wells have been recommended of which 46 have already been installed by the Punjab Government. To observe the behaviour of the water-table as a result of the implementation of various remedial measures, construction of a network of 290 piezometers in Faridkot and 170 in Muktsar areas has been planned.

#### Fuel Costs of Fishing Operations

4270. **SHRI D.P. JADEJA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that fuel oil comprises nearly 50% (percent) of the operation cost of a deep sea fishing trawler;

(b) the steps being contemplated to bring down such costs through subsidies, etc.;

(c) the details of such proposals;

(d) the steps being taken to curb further increase of shrimp trawlers in view of falling shrimp catches; and

(e) the details of financial reliefs granted to shrimp trawlers in the last two years ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A scheme is in operation at present for providing rebate on Central